

**MINUTES  
CITY OF BLOOMINGTON  
COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABILITY**

Tuesday, July 8, 2008 6:00 p.m.  
Hooker Room, City Hall, 401 North Morton Street

**Roll Call:**

Members Present: Jeff Mease, John Hamilton, George Huntington, Kent Berglund, Cynthia Schultz, Toby Strout, Paul Schneller, Steve Ashkin, Christine Glaser, Dave Rollo, Jim Sherman

Regrets: Robert Bent

Staff Present: Adam Wason, Ryan Hargis

**Call to Order/Approval of Minutes:**

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 pm. Both meeting minutes for May 13, 2008 and June 10, 2008 were approved by the commission. The minutes were approved unanimously.

**Public Comment:**

There was no public comment.

**Announcements:**

Christine Glaser announced that she sent an email to each member of the commission which provides details on a water conservation discussion put on by the Women's League for International Peace and Freedom at the Monroe County Library on July 17, 2008. She added that it is possible that this same group will host a meeting to discuss the issues related to the Bloomington Hospital merger with Clarian Health Partners.

Steve Ashkin informed the commission that he will be presenting to institutional entities on Green Cleaning at the Sherwood Oaks Community Church on Aug. 13<sup>th</sup> from 1-5:00 pm. There will be a fee for attendees of this workshop. He estimated the cost will be around \$25 per guest. Steve added that this discussion is for institutions such as businesses and schools. The commission agreed that this is the type of event that should be sponsored by BCOS.

Jim Sherman asked if anyone knows of a sanitary sewer problem in the southeast part of the city. He informed the commission that there has been a bad smell off and on through out the area. In reaction to this Dave Rollo said that he will check with the utilities department to find the cause of this.

Dave Rollo updated the commission on some current events regarding peak oil and environmental issues.

Christine Glaser announced that Earthcares met July 7<sup>th</sup>. She reported that the workshop has been receiving high levels of attendance and that they will be continuing to put on these workshops in the future.

Steve Ashkin brought with him the *Multifamily Green Building Guidelines* produced by Alameda County, CA. He discussed the importance of this book in regards to large multifamily developments. When asked if this is practical for builders in this area, he answered yes. He also added that a hardcopy of this book is \$50; however a PDF can be downloaded for free. Paul

Schneller asked if the city can require builders to use green building techniques in new construction. Adam Wason and Dave Rollo responded with information on the progress in creating a Green Building Ordinance for City Facilities with the intent of leading by example. The City Council is not currently considering an ordinance requiring green building design for private developments.

Jim Sherman addressed how he feels IU is not following city codes. The new science building that is located north of the psychology building caused severe flooding problems. He asked if the city could speak to someone with the university about this issue.

#### **Discussion on Greenhouse Gas Emissions Letter**

Christine Glaser announced that she has received no feedback regarding this letter. As decided at last month's meeting, if there were no commits or feedback by this July meeting the letter would be voted on to send.

Steve Ashkin motioned to send the letter. After a second motion, it was voted on to send the Greenhouse Gas Emission Letter to Mayor Kruzan.

The vote passed unanimously.

#### **Discussion on Sustainability Assessment Report**

John Hamilton began by noting that the report has been sent to all commission members. However it still needs to be proofread and revised. Adam indicated that this process has already begun. John also mentioned the two new measures that were included to this years report, Acres of Greenspace and Household Wages Needed to Support Basic Needs.

The discussion then turned to dropping the category on Greenhouse Gas Emissions because of the lack of new data. Adam informed the commission that software has been purchased and new data is currently being retrieved. Adam hopes the data will be ready by mid-August.

George Huntington suggested holding off on sending the report until Aug 30, in hopes of including the data on Greenhouse Gas Emissions.

John Hamilton asked the commission if everyone is comfortable that a decision be made on publishing the report at the BCOS meeting in August. Everyone agrees.

Commission members will review the report for next month's meeting.

#### **Discussion on Retreat Logistics and Goal Setting**

John Hamilton began the discussion by offering dates of Saturdays in September as possibilities for the retreat. The commission determined that Saturday September 6<sup>th</sup> will be the date of their retreat.

Adam Wason addressed the need for a facilitator outside of the group. He mentioned that at the last retreat the commission solicited Beverly Calendar Anderson as facilitator. He noted that Ms. Anderson could be a possibility for this years retreat as well. Adam Wason informed the group that David Eastman has offered to be facilitator for a fee \$1000.

Steve Ashkin stressed the need to pay someone for their work as facilitator for the retreat. He also offered that his company could help contribute funding for a facilitator.

Adam Wason will be accepting suggestions for a facilitator until Friday July 18<sup>th</sup>.

The discussion then focused on goals of the retreat. Jeff Mease mentioned that he felt the last retreat was too short. Steve Ashkin added that the commission must have a specific outcome in mind for the retreat to be successful. Personal actions plans with specific things each member will do for the following year was suggested by Paul Schneller. Christine Glaser felt as though the commission should model their processes after the environmental commission's processes because she feels that they operate more efficiently.

A subcommittee was formed to plan the retreat. The subcommittee consists of John Hamilton, Paul Schneller, George Huntington, Kent Berglund, and Adam Wason.

Toby Strout asked if the commission should revisit their mission during the retreat. It was agreed that the mission be looked at only briefly. Steve Ashkin asked if others who are not on the commission can be invited to attend. George Huntington answered by saying he feels initially that others should only be presenters, however, there maybe some exceptions.

John Hamilton recapped by saying plans will be finalized at next month's meeting.

Adam ended the discussion with possible locations of the retreat, including: the Indiana Memorial Union, the Sycamore Land Trust, and Lower Cascade Park.

Suggestions for goals/outcomes and location ideas of the retreat should be sent to Adam Wason by Tuesday July 15<sup>th</sup>.

### **Staff Reports**

Adam Wason began by discussing his work with Team Green. He stated that he has been working on a meeting with department heads of the city for a goal setting session. He also informed the commission of his work with FEMA for the clean-up of the recent floods.

Steve Ashkin asked Adam for specifics on Team Green. John Hamilton mentioned the past periodical written reports on what Team Green is working on and asked for an update at next BCOS meeting.

### **Committee Reports**

- a. The Sustainability Assessment committee announced its schedule for meetings to discuss next years report. The meetings will be held on July 14<sup>th</sup> at DeAngelos and July 28<sup>th</sup> at Bobby's Too. Both meetings will start at 1:00 pm.
- b. During the Initiatives Committee report John Hamilton asked to make sure everyone on the committee is put on the email list. The committee then discussed they're meeting on July 1<sup>st</sup>. It was stated that at the meeting each member in attendance received assignments to be completed for their next committee meeting.
- c. The Education Committee explained what was discussed in their last meeting. Agenda items such as health care insurance and neighborhood initiatives were looked at. They noted that the committee is pursuing many ideas and looking to broaden the definition of education. Steve Ashkin explained he would like to see education for the business community be a focus for this committee.

The Bloomington Commission on Sustainability adjourned at 7:52 pm.

The next meeting will be on August 12, 2008 in the McCloskey Room of City Hall at 6 p.m.

